

**STATUS REPORT: Reminder**

If you have not yet turned in the Required Annual Immunization Status Report for 2005, please send in as soon as possible. If you have questions or need assistance please call 360-236-3595.

**CONDITIONAL STATUS:**

- Immunization status for students who are in the process of being immunized is 'conditional'. Students are 'conditional' for the usual recommended interval between doses plus 30 days. Health care providers have flexibility to determine the interval between doses.
- Students who have an upcoming appointment for immunizations are to be in 'conditional' status until after that appointment.
- Follow-up with parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student(s) to ensure the immunization was received and obtain documentation.

**VARICELLA (Chickenpox):**

- The State Board of Health approved the proposed implementation plan at their meeting 1/11/06;
- The implementation start date is 7/1/06 pending funds made available by the 2006 legislature.
- The WAC specifies "varicella for children under thirteen years of age" and the implementation plan translates this into a 6<sup>th</sup> grade school requirement for children under thirteen years of age.
- There is no requirement for children 13 years of age or older regardless of their grade in school.
- The vaccine recommendation for children 13 years of age and older (with no history of either prior disease or vaccination) is to receive two doses of varicella vaccine at least 28 days apart.
- Even though the rule only applies to children under 13 years of age, it is good public health practice for all adolescents to be immune from varicella as there is a greater risk of serious disease and complications in older adolescents and adults.

**POLIO:**

- The current CDC recommendation: "4 doses of polio vaccine at appropriate ages and intervals is a complete series".
  - > Children who received 4 doses prior to the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday are considered completely immunized.
  - > Please change the immunization status to "complete" for those students who are currently exempt due to not having received a dose of polio after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Polio vaccine is not routinely recommended for students 18 years of age or older.
  - > Consider students 18 years of age and older "complete".
  - > Remove exemption status for these students.

## **MENINGOCOCCAL: Reminder**

In 2005 the Washington State Legislature passed a law requiring schools to provide meningococcal information to parents/guardians of students beginning with sixth grade entry. This legislation was effective July 24, 2005.

This legislation amends RCW 28A.210.080 adding item 2 to section 1:

“(2) (a) Beginning with sixth grade entry, every public and private school in the state shall provide parents and guardians with information about meningococcal disease and its vaccine at the beginning of every school year.”

The complete text of the law can be found at <http://www.leg.wa.gov/>  
Search for the law by RCW number.

## **NEW VACCINE: Tdap**

You may begin to see Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis) on student records. The trade names are Adacel by Sanofi-Pasteur and Boosterix by Glaxo-Smith-Kline. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends Tdap for:

- Adolescents 11 and 12 years of age in place of the Td booster
- Adolescents 13 through 18 years who missed the Td booster at 11 to 12 years of age.
- Adolescents 11 through 18 years of age who have had > 5 years since their last Td vaccine.

## **OPPORTUNITY – Volunteers needed**

The Immunization Program CHILD Profile has initiated a process to revise the School/Child Care/Preschool Immunization manual.

Goal: Create a format that is user friendly and easy to keep up to date.

We have set up work groups and leads in the following areas:

- 1) Adults & adolescents – Nicole Pender
- 2) Child care/preschool –Pamela Johnson
- 3) Requirements – Ruth McDougall and Ros Aarthun
- 4) Vaccine preventable diseases – Ruth McDougall
- 5) Resources – Karen Arbogast

We would like to have at least 2 persons volunteer to work with us on the revisions of each section. We expect groups to work via conference calls and email. In order to make the manual more user friendly, it would be helpful to know:

- 1) What do you like and/or dislike about the current manual?
- 2) What information do you want added to the manual?
- 3) Are there topics/sections in the manual that need more clarification?

Please email Ruth McDougall at [ruth.mcdougall@doh.wa.gov](mailto:ruth.mcdougall@doh.wa.gov) or call at 206-300-7951 or 360-236-3760 with your input, suggestions, and/or interest in participating in this project.